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Elke Zobl

From DIY to Collaborative Fields of Experimentation: Feminist Media and Cultural Production towards Social Change – A Visual Contribution

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From DIY to Collaborative Fields of **Experimentation: Feminist Media and Cultural Production Towards Social Change -**

A Visual Contribution¹

Flke Zohl

"Zines. as a DIY practice, are the very visible expression of "everyone can do it". It is a possibility of sharing and spreading information, ideas and knowledge and a means of self-teaching. It is also a way of connecting people and ideas."

Love Kills Collective (Romania)

"I think the whole process of zine making is very empowering, both to the maker and later on the reader. Most of all. I seek satisfaction of the making, the process: dealing with what I used to write to myself as something publicpoliticizing the personal, and personalizing the political." Editor of Patrol zine (Israel)

"What I love about zines is that I get a lot of new perspective on things. It gives me strength." (her) riot distro (Schweden)

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"It's up to you now": Calling for participation



Flyer by *Trouble X* (Germany, www.troublex.blogsport.de). Images by Trouble X.

"DIY is
a practice that can
be very encouraging and
empowering. Skill sharing is simply
fun! This is also a kind of community
building, where a lot also takes place
through exchanges. DIY is a kind of
alternative, that is to say: It doesn't all
need to be marketable."
The Artist of Trouble X Comics



drag. Image by Trouble X. (Germany, www.troublex. blogsport.de), 2007

Taking zine-making to the community

"This DIY ethic is the cornerstone of the political aspect of Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go. We believe zine-making embodies the phrase the personal is political' by encouraging active participation in the creation of one's own culture, and independence from mainstream media." Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go (USA)

"Zine-making is especially important for teen girls who discover a new avenue for expression that is uncensored: something that they can produce alone, without the need for experts or expensive tools - their tools are their mind and a pen anvone can do it." Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go (USA)









"Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go doesn't just want to encourage zine making, We also hope to inspire other groups of like-minded folks to start running workshops in their areas too." Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go (USA)

"Making Zines, Making History" a workshop by Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go with Girl Scouts of America troop at the Women's History Museum and Education Center of San Diego (ČA, USA) in October 2006. Photos by: Margarat Nee and Kim Schwenk of Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go.

The upper right photo is from a different event: September 8, 2007, Samuel H. Wentworth Public Library, Center Sandwich, NH, http://gzagg.org/ sandwich_photos.html.

Doing-It-Together: Towards open fields of experimentation

"DIY is
an approach which
understands itself clearly as
action-oriented and emancipatory
in the sense of detaching oneself
from rigid principles. For me, DIY is
only then interesting, when it becomes
a Do-it-Together and is not confined to
the own microcosm."
Stephanie Müller (rag*treasure,
Germany)

rag*treasure (Munich) with their music-text-dance-textile performance "Trash-Recycled-F[e]Mtronics" at the first international women artist festival in Vienna "Her Position in Transition" (March 2006). One of the collective members, Stephanie Müller (in front with the sewing machine), has done a number of critical crafting performances and exhibitions as well as workshops with migrant youth and refugees (see http://www.flachware.de/stephanie-mueller/). Photo by scissabob.de.



"It is about
making projects without
the precondition of a professional
education into an open field of experimentation for myself and the audience and to use
my voice to indicate dedicated commitment
for oneself and the needs of others."
Stephanie Müller (rag*treasure,
Germany)

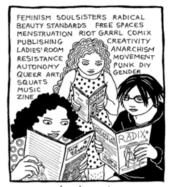
DIY feminism towards social change

"DIY

feminism is about everyone doing feminism ourselves and making changes, however small they may seem at first sight. It means not waiting for others, for "professionals" or politicians, to make the world more women-friendly and to solve problems related to sexism." Nina Nijsten (Belgium)

"DIY feminism disrupts complacent beliefs that feminism and social change are no longer on the agenda of young people." Red Chidgey (UK)





A COLLECTION OF WRITINGS & IMAGES CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF ECHO ZINES 2001 - 2011





VANAF BJ: MAAK JE EIGEN ZINE !

DOK: SPLITSING AFRIKALAAN EN KOOPVAARDULAAN -POSTERS MAKEN -FICTIE EN ARTIKELS SCHRIJVEN



HTTP://FELFEMINISME.WORDPRESS.COM + HTTP://ECHOPUBLISHING.WORDPRESS.COM

Drawings, posters and zine fest flyer by Nina Nijsten (Belgium, http://drawingsbynina.wordpress.com)